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**BID ON A CHANCE TO DINE WITH ROYALTY THIS CARNIVAL SEASON AT
GALATOIRE'S 7TH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS AUCTION**

*Proceeds to Benefit the Galatoire Foundation, Crimestoppers of Greater New Orleans
and Raintree Children's Services*

(NEW ORLEANS) – January 12, 2012 – Celebrate the Mardi Gras season with food fit for Carnival Kings and Queens at Galatoire's 7th annual Mardi Gras Auction, Monday, Jan. 23, at 5:30 p.m. The event will include complimentary champagne and hors d'oeuvres by Executive Chef Michael Sichel. The auction will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Galatoire's Mardi Gras Auction allows customers the opportunity to bid to reserve a much-coveted table on the restaurant's first floor on one of the landmark restaurants busiest days – the Friday before Mardi Gras, Feb. 17, 2012. In Galatoire's tradition, the first floor seating policy is typically on a first come, first served basis.

"We have seen great success in our table auctions, benefiting local charities. We recently held our Christmas Auction which was one of the highest grossing auctions of its kind, to date," said Melvin Rodrigue, chief operating officer of Galatoire's and president of the Galatoire Foundation. "Each year, the auctions continue to take on a life of their own and help us solidify our commitment to the community."

Since their inception in 2006, the auctions have raised more than \$700,000 for local charities.

This year, proceeds from both auctions will benefit the Galatoire Foundation, dedicated to giving back to the New Orleans community and region that has patronized Galatoire's for generations; Crimestoppers, which provides citizens with a safe and

anonymous outlet to assist law enforcement in apprehending criminals without fear of retaliation, and provides education and leadership opportunities for local youth to stand empowered against crime; and Raintree Children & Family Services, which provides an array of services to vulnerable persons in the community, encouraging hope and creating opportunities for independent lives.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Christi Broussard at (504) 525-6022. Limited seating is available. Minimum bids begin at \$150 per seat.

Galatoire's is located at 209 Bourbon Street. Call (504) 525-2021 or visit www.galatoires.com to make reservations or view the entire Galatoire's menu. Regular dining hours are 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. – 10 p.m. on Sundays.

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About the Galatoire Foundation

The Galatoire Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to giving back to the New Orleans community and region that has patronized Galatoire's for generations, allowing us to secure generations to come and remain a cornerstone in representing Louisiana and its authentic culture.